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PATENT *du*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Ishii et al.)	Group Art No.: - 2651
Application No:	09/131,941)	Examiner: Psitos
Filed:	August 10, 1998)	Re: PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
For: "INFORMATION STORAGE MEDIUM...")	Our Ref: B-3513 616664-2/AS
)	Date: May 3, 2001

BOX CPA
Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed as a Preliminary Amendment to the Continuing Prosecution Application filed on the same date. A fee for a two-month extension of the term for responding has already been paid when filing a Response After Final. A further one-month fee accompanies the present Preliminary Amendment. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 16-18 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 4, 7, 10, and 13. A clean copy of amended claims 4, 7, 10, and 13 is shown on pages 2-6. A marked-up copy of old claims 4, 7, 10, and 13 with amendments is shown in the attached appendix.